consiting Low Power Transmitter (LPT)/ Very Low Power Transmitter (VLPT) projects with DoT Towers.

(c) Himachal Pradesh.

(d) and (e) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

In Himachal Pradesh, 9 locations were selected. Details are given below:—

VLPTs	
Palampur Thanedar	VLPT functioning at DoT premises.
Bijli Mahadev	Decision for cositing the VLPT at DoT premises still exists, not yet installed.
Dalhousie Chunaghai	Not installed at DoT premises due to site constraints.
Ajhufort	DoT sharing VLPT site, VLPT functional.
Nehri, Tissa Ashapuri	Doordarshan has proposed to DoT authorities for co-setting VLPTs at DoT premises. Functioning may start within two months after receipt of DoT approval.

Representation in this regard have been received from time to time details are as under:—

Letter dated 5.5.1998 from President Himachal Vikas Congress regarding locations at Naina Devi, Chunaghai, Ashapuri, Bijli Madadev.

Letter dated 19.9.1998 from Shri Kashmir Singh Rana, Ex-MLA regarding location at Surani in Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh. No scheme at present for setting up of LPT/VLPT at Surani.

Location of VLPT, Naina Devi is yet to be sanctioned.

Offensive characterisation of Freedom Fighters in Film "JINNAH"

1334. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the offensive characterisation of Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other freedom fighters besides distortion of history in a film "Jinnah" recently screened in London film festival and invited to a film festival in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to review the film before it is screened in Kerala film festival; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Film Certification has not received any application for certification of the film 'Jinnah' so far. According to the Chalachitra Academy of Kerala, which organises the International Film Festival of Kerala '99, the film 'Jinnah' has not been invited for screening in the Festival. The question of reviewing the film will arise only if it is received for screening in the Festival.

Stoppage of Telecast of Telugu Films

1335. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the reasons for which the Hyderabad Doordarshan Satellite Channel (DD8) had stopped telecast of Telugu movies from November, 1, for some days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Prasar Bharati has reported that due to financial constraints,

Telugu films on DD-8 were temporarily stopped. The telecast of the Telgu films has since been resumed with effect from 18th November, 1998.

आकाशवाणी की सेवाओं में विस्तार

1336. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्रः** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आजादी के पचास साल बाद भी कुछ क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जहां आकाशवाणी की सेवाएं समुचित ढंग से प्राप्त नहीं होती हैं;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्रों और जनजातीय क्षेत्रों की बहुत अवहेलना की जा रही है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि अकेले दूरदर्शन में ही 6000 से अधिक पद रिक्त पड़े हैं; और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा इन रिक्त पदों को कब तक भरा जाएगा और उपेक्षित क्षेत्रों को कब तक समुचित सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करा दी जाएंगी?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): (क) जी, हां। राज्यों में कुछ क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जहां दिन के समय की रेडियो कवरेज उपलब्ध नहीं है। वर्तमान में राष्ट्रीय कवरेज क्षेत्र की 90% तथा जनसंख्या की 97% है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) और (घ) वर्तमान में दूरदर्शन में लगभग 2000 पद रिक्त पड़े हुए हैं। इन रिक्तियों को भरने के लिए एक समयबद्ध कार्रवाई योजना पहले ही शुरू कर दी गयी है।

Meetings of Doordarshan Programme Advisory Committee

1337. SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Doordarshan Programme Advisory Committee met during the last six months;

(b) the number of serials/slots that were recommended by the Committee for D.D. Kendra, Chennai; and

(c) whether there have been complaints from certain quarters on the fairness of selection of serials/slots etc., especially in Tamil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) No meeting of the Doordarshan Programme Advisory Committee at Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai was held during the last six months. As such no serials/slots were recommended by the said Committee. However, the Official Committee constituted at that Kendra to process the proposals for serials had recommended 345 serials and the Committee meant for reconsideration had recommended another 52 serials bringing the total to 397 serials. So far 194 serials have been scheduled by Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai and the remaining will be scheduled in their turn.

(c) There was some dissatisfaction among the producers whose serials were not found acceptable. As per rules, they were offered an opportunity to appeal. Accordingly their applications were duly reconsidered and results communicated to them.

Patronisation of Producers by NFDC

1338. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Film Development Corporation have patronised some small coterie of film makers and producers in the name of producing art films as reported in the Delhi Times supplement of the Times of India dated 3rd July 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and advances made by the NFDC during the last three years along with the result so achieved?